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APR 2 1953

Mr. Philip K. Hitti
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Hitti:

Thank you for your cordial invitation to attend the fifth annual conference on the Near East late in May and to discuss the problem of the Near East as we see it. I regret that my commitments here in Washington will not permit me to accept despite the importance of the occasion.

I think an excellent discussion leader, if you have not already approached him, would be Mr. Henry Byroade of the State Department. He is exceedingly well informed on the area and is in continuous and significant contact with its problems.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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